

NCLIS MINUTES (Draft)

NCLIS Meeting September 27 and 28, 1998

NCLIS/National Museum Services Board Meeting September 28, 1998 Washington, DC

Members present	Jeanne Hurley Simon, Chairperson; "Abe" Abramson; Rebecca T. Bingham; Joan Challinor; Diane Frankel; José-Marie Griffiths; Martha Gould; Bobby Roberts; and Joel Valdez
Members not present	Walter Anderson; LeVar Burton; Mary Furlong; Frank Lucchino; and Winston Tabb (for James Billington)
Staff and consultants present	Robert S. Willard, Executive Director Judith C. Russell, Deputy Director Howard Harris, Consultant Barbara L. Whiteleather, Consultant
Guests and observers	Mary Alice Baish, American Association of Law Libraries (AALL); Beth Bingham, Baton Rouge, LA; Mary Costabile, American Library Association (ALA); Carol Henderson, ALA; Ray Ewick, Indiana State Librarian and Incoming President, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (representing COSLA); Peyton Neal, Information Industry Association (IIA); Ann Prentice, American Society for Information Science (ASIS); Betsy Sywetz, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

Sunday, September 27, 1998
The Hotel Washington

Opening Comments

Chairperson Jeanne Hurley Simon announced that Judith C. Russell was named NCLIS Deputy Director on August 12, 1998. The Members congratulated Ms. Russell and praised Mr. Willard on his selection for Deputy Director.

Ms. Russell briefly outlined travel reimbursement procedures for this meeting -- which differ from standard procedures -- because the Institute of Museum and Library Services is covering travel costs for this (the second) joint NCLIS/National Museum Services Board (NMSB) meeting.

The Chairperson reported that two NCLIS committees met earlier in the day: (1) the Personnel Committee; and (2) the National Awards for Library Services (NALS). Committee reports will be presented at the scheduled time on the agenda.

Vice Chair Martha Gould expressed appreciation to the Members and staff for agreeing to meet on Sunday, allowing her to return home in time for the High Holy Day.

Personnel Matters

MOTION

It was moved by Abe Abramson, seconded by Joel Valdez, to formally honor Mary Alice Hedge, in the form of a resolution, and to express thanks for many years of hard work and support.

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by José-Marie Griffiths, to table the motion until the following day.

Joining Commissioner Challinor in praising the work of the staff, Chairperson Simon quoted the following (which she suggested may be an appropriate motto for NCLIS):

Non Omnia Sed Bona et Bene

*Not everything
but good things
and well done*

Committee Reports

Working Group on Issues of Journal Pricing, Publishing and Copyright

Commissioner Griffiths reported that the Working Group on Issues of Journal Pricing, Publishing and Copyright would meet at the NCLIS office on September 29. Karen Hunter of Elsevier is scheduled to speak, and via speakerphone Professor Jeff Mackie Mason, Professor, Information, Economics and Public Policy, will address alternative ways of licensing scholarly materials and report on experiments with new pricing models. A complete report will be prepared and distributed to all Members.

Commissioner Griffiths also reported on a panel session to be held at the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, October 28, 1998. Mr. Willard will coordinate speakers, resulting in a panel of four persons representing the not-for-profit publishers, for-profit publishers, creators/end users of scholarly information, and libraries.

Personnel Committee

Vice Chair Gould, Personnel Committee Chair, reported that the Committee recommends the adoption of the Senior Executive Services (SES) boilerplate evaluation process approved by the Office of Personnel Management. Current plans call for the negotiation process to be tied into the budget and planning timetable.

The Committee previously agreed that the NCLIS Administrative Manual is out of date. As a result, revisions have begun starting with the revised travel regulations and procedures. A new chapter, the SES Evaluation Process, will be added to the manual. The revised manual is expected to be completed by April 1999.

The Committee recommended the creation of an Audit Committee, working, perhaps, in conjunction with the NCLIS Budget Committee and/or Personnel Committee. The Audit Committee would have responsibility for reviewing NCLIS audit reports and assuring that the Commission is "comfortable" with the expenditure of funds.

MOTION

It was moved by Abe Abramson, seconded by Joan Challinor, to accept the Personnel Committee's request to: (1) Adopt the boilerplate for the Senior Executive Services evaluation process approved by the Office of Personnel Management; and (2) Establish an NCLIS Audit Committee.

The motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Personnel Committee will be held November 9, one day prior to NCLIS' open hearing, "Kids and the Internet: the Promise and the Perils."

Bob Willard expressed NCLIS' good fortune in obtaining legal assistance for personnel matters from Gail Baum, General Attorney, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education. Chairperson Simon added that over the last two years, she has established a sister-like relationship with Ms. Baum. As a means of expressing appreciation for Ms. Baum's exceptional service, NCLIS staff prepared a resolution for Commission approval. With the Commission's approval, a copy of the resolution (Attachment I) will be forwarded to Ms. Baum's supervisors.

MOTION

It was moved by Abe Abramson, seconded by Martha Gould, to approve the resolution honoring Gail F. Baum.

The motion carried unanimously.

Millennium

Chairperson Simon expressed her disappointment that the letter from Commissioner Lucchino to Ellen Lovell, Advisor to the First Lady for the Millennium Program, was never received. Commissioner Challinor recently met with Ms. Lovell and at the end of the meeting, Ms. Lovell expressed her feeling that "the ball is now in the Commission's court."

The Commissioners agreed that the millennium offers real opportunities and discussed potential and appropriate roles for the Commission. The following ideas were presented:

- (1) Establish a world-wide Sister Libraries Program for the purpose of sharing and spreading the wealth of knowledge of American libraries. (Suggested by Commissioner Challinor who offered to work closely with Commissioner Lucchino and NCLIS staff.)
- (2) Establish seminars and/or workshops on distance education (suggested by Vice Chair Gould).
- (3) Establish an essay contest, patterned after the *Letters of Literature*. Middle/high school students would be asked to write letters explaining what libraries have meant to them or to someone in their lives. Such a project would highlight the important part school and public libraries will play for generations to come. Vice Chair Gould also suggested that this be an NCLIS/Center for the Book cooperative project.
- (4) Research and produce a list of all public libraries over 100 years old (suggested by Commissioner Abramson).

The Chairperson encouraged additional suggestions for the NCLIS Millennium Program.

Assessment of Government Electronic Information Products

Ms. Russell reported for F. Woody Horton, NCLIS Consultant, on the Assessment of Government Electronic Information Products.

As of September 25 (the extended deadline) 17 of the 25 agencies have completed their final products list. Fifteen of the 17 lists were received early enough to allow Westat to mail the questionnaire to them on September 29. A final notice will be sent to the remaining agencies and follow-up by Westat, Woody Horton and/or Judy Russell.

To date, there are 304 products; expected products were closer to 400. If Westat agrees to add the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), this would add another 25 products to the list. SEC would be the only regulatory agency within the group, which is why NCLIS suggested their addition.

Eight of the agencies have held meetings with Westat which have proved extremely helpful. The remaining agencies will be requested to respond by telephone or written survey for background information in the study.

All of the relevant documents are on NCLIS web site, which has proved to be a vital means of communication.

Preliminary results are expected to be available at the NCLIS business meeting, November 9, 1998.

Commissioner Abramson specifically praised Mr. Horton for his work as NCLIS Consultant. Mr. Willard added, "Mr. Horton has been performing masterfully in making people feel comfortable with the importance and safety of the Assessment of Government Electronic Information Products. Commissioner Gould praised the information about the assessment included in NCLIS' web site.

International Survey

Ms. Russell reported that letters to selected library and information science (LIS) executive directors and selected deans and directors of LIS schools will be mailed during the week of October 5, 1998. The letters offer the option of an association publicizing and distributing the NCLIS international survey to its own membership.

The purpose of the questionnaire is to identify U.S. participants in international organizations related to LIS. The resultant database will be produced and made available to the entire LIS community. The Commission is also seeking a volunteer to establish a clearinghouse and a web site that would house this data and maintain the information

resource on an ongoing basis. In addition, a library school volunteer is being sought to assist in the data analysis.

The NCLIS web site will be used for interactive public data collection and is designed so that respondents can fill the information out on line. However, a hard copy alternative is also available.

In response to suggestions for participants, Commissioner Gould suggested the International Visitors Council in Washington, DC.

Personnel Matters

Commissioner Abramson reintroduced the resolution of appreciation to Mary Alice Hedge tabled earlier in the day. At Vice Chair Gould's request the discussion was tabled until the following day.

Library Statistics Cooperative Program

1998 National Survey of Public Library Outlet Internet Connectivity

Mr. Willard offered the following statement concerning the NCLIS Library Statistics Program:

"The issue of library statistics arose at the first meeting I attended as a Commissioner. Future discussions of library statistics then became somewhat of a joke and, in many ways, Commissioner Lucchino took the brunt. Since becoming Executive Director, I have devoted much energy and attention to this area. Without being too over-reaching, I now think that the Library Statistics Program is one of the most important functions to which the Commission should lend its name and support. . . For the Commission to provide policy advice to the Congress and the President about the library and information needs of the people, we must have good, reliable data. There is good data, and there is bad data. Good data takes time to collect, and it costs money. . . I am delighted that the Commission's role in library statistics has become so well regarded and respected by the library and information services community. I am also delighted that Howard Harris is our consultant for this project."

In a power-point presentation, Mr. Harris highlighted the NCLIS/American Library Association *1998 National Survey of Public Library Outlet Internet Connectivity*, undertaken by C. R. McClure and J. C. Bertot. The presentation covered:

- NCLIS Role in Library Statistics
- Universes Under Survey
- Public Library Connectivity
 - By Poverty Level
 - By Metropolitan Status
- Public Access in Libraries
 - By Poverty Level
 - By Metropolitan Status

A copy of the presentation is attached (Attachment II).

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the value and importance of the NCLIS Internet surveys to date, Mr. Willard stated, "I not only recommend we continue, I recommend we conduct surveys with much more discipline than in the past. These surveys and studies are very important -- important enough to be presented in the NCLIS Appropriations Request and recognized as part of the Commission's mission and program."

MOTION

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by Abe Abramson, that surveys of Internet connectivity for public libraries and school libraries, separately, become a major program objective within the NCLIS Appropriations Request.

The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion on the motion, Commissioner Challinor recommended that in the future NCLIS work closely with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) on Internet-connection surveys.

Mr. Willard reported that Mr. Harris' power-point presentation and the final report (in PDF format; a format which allows the report to be downloaded to appear in the same format as hard copy) will be available on NCLIS' web site. In addition, NCLIS will issue its own report which will highlight elements of the McClure/Bertot survey and contain an introduction, survey methodologies, data analyses, graphics, tables, and the contractor's report, included as an appendix.

Fellowship Program

Mr. Willard explained that the intent in seeking to establish a fellowship position for the Library Statistics Program is to offer flexibility. He noted that some professionals in the field believe that such a 'fellowship' does not offer permanency nor does it portray a long-time commitment on the Commission's part. "Clearly," he stated, "this is not our

intention. We want to send the message that we are moving forward aggressively, and that staffing this position is of the highest priority.”

Mr. Willard stated that he has had several meetings with Pascal “Pat” Forgione, Commission, National Center for Education Statistics, who agrees that there is a tremendous degree of cooperation and shared interests between NCES and NCLIS. Hopefully, the Commissioners will have an opportunity to meet and talk with Mr. Forgione during the NCLIS/NMSB luncheon.

“Kids and the Internet: The Promise and the Perils”

Chairperson Simon confirmed NCLIS’ open hearing on “*Kids and the Internet: The Promise and the Perils*,” on Tuesday, November 10, 1998, at the Freedom Forum, Arlington, Virginia. This hearing is extremely important to Commissioner Anderson who has suggested Andrew Vachss, a lawyer who represents children exclusively, as the “lead off” and “theme-setting” witness.

With the date and place of the hearing confirmed, an announcement will be placed in the Federal Register and a news release will be issued immediately. Current plans call for a six-hour hearing with small Commissioner panels (3-5 persons) chaired by Chairperson Simon. Commissioners, of course, are invited to testify. Specific names/organizations to invite as witnesses should be forwarded to Mr. Willard as soon as possible.

With the exception of Commissioners Roberts and Valdez, all Members present indicated they would attend the hearing. In addition, Commissioner Burton is hoping to attend.

Commissioner Abramson informed the Members that INTERPOL is holding a January 1999 meeting on Child Pornography and the Internet in Paris sponsored by UNESCO. Mr. Willard stated that, at this time, NCLIS’ role in the Paris meeting is unclear.

NCLIS Resolution, *The Important Role of Libraries in the Lives of America’s Children*

Chairperson Simon reported that Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) is expected to introduce a statement recognizing NCLIS’ efforts “to mobilize resources for the purpose of curbing youth violence in this Nation,” and citing our resolution on *The Important Role of Libraries in the Lives of America’s Children*. A copy of the draft statement was included in the NCLIS meeting folder. Mrs. Virginia Mathews of Connecticut, a library advocate, has been working closely with Senator Dodd’s office and deserves much credit for spreading the good word of the resolution.

Mr. Willard expressed his disappointment that the consultant hired to mount a major public relations initiative has resigned due to family health problems. In the meantime, Barbara Whiteleather is working with Ms. Mathews on follow-up activities pertaining to the resolution.

Legislative Updates

S.2288

S.2288, *the Government Publications Reform Act of 1998*, was introduced by Senators John Warner (R-VA) and Wendell Ford (D-KY). The bill would reform Title 44 of the U.S. Code to strengthen the Federal Depository Library Program and to improve and enhance public access to government publications from all three branches of government regardless of format.

Mr. Willard reported that in response to ALA's call for urgent action to secure support for the bill, a letter dated September 22 was sent from Chairperson Simon to John Warner, Chairman, and Wendell Ford, Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Rules and Administration, conveying support for S.2288. The letter urged the Committee to "report S.2288 favorably to the Senate and to do all within your power to secure Congressional enactment." NCLIS Members were provided copies of the letter.

Ms. Russell noted that the bill's language, as amended, includes NCLIS on the committee overseeing the implementation of permanent access.

S.1596

At the Chairperson's request, Carol Henderson, Director, ALA Washington Office, presented an update on S.1596, Reading Excellence Act. The Act amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 by adding reading grants. Ms. Henderson praised Senator Jeffords for his good work in assuring that public libraries and school libraries are included in the Act. Senator Jeffords has accepted Chairperson Simon's invitation to have lunch during the NCLIS/NMSB joint meeting.

Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill

Mr. Willard reported that to date the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill has not passed. However, the Senate has passed a Continuing Resolution through October 9. The NCLIS appropriation for FY 1999 is the same as in FY 1998: \$1 million.

Commissioner Abramson requested that the revised NCLIS Administrative Manual include instructional procedures for government shutdowns.

Filtering Requirements

Ms. Henderson reported that requirements for libraries and schools to install blocking and filtering software as a condition of receiving the e-rate telecommunications discounts may resurface as attachments to other bills in the hectic end-of-session atmosphere in Congress. Because of this uncertainty, one likely vehicle for the bill is the Internet Tax Freedom Act (S.442), pending on the Senate floor and scheduled for action on September 29. As of today, the McCain amendment remains attached to a Commerce Department funding bill.

National Awards

Commissioner Frankel reported that the event for the National Award for Museum Service (NAMS) will be held at the White House, November 5, 1998. Commissioners planning to attend should notify Commissioner Frankel as clearance is required. IMLS will mail formal invitations to all Commissioners and the Executive Director.

NAMS (now in its fifth year) is given to museums that have made a difference to their communities. Because of the program's success, during the June NCLIS meeting Commissioner Frankel recommended establishing a National Awards for Library Service (NALS); as recommended, Chairperson Simon established an NCLIS Committee on National Awards for Library Service composed of the following Members: Rebecca Bingham; Joan Challinor; Diane Frankel; Martha Gould; and Bobby Roberts.

The Committee held its first meeting earlier in the day. Commissioner Frankel reported that the Committee agreed to use the museum's criteria:

- The relevance to positive effects of the library's collaboration with other institutions in the community;
- The relevance to innovative programming which addresses current social, economic or environmental issues; and
- The relevance to programming that demonstrates the effectiveness with which the library has attracted new audiences.

Commissioner Frankel cited several specific considerations for the library award:

- (1) In the United States, there are approximately 8,000 museums and 123,000 libraries, including branches, schools, etc. The museum program gives three awards each year. Therefore, it may be appropriate to give three or more awards to libraries; and
- (2) The Commission may desire that the Institute staff cull the nominations, rather than review all that are received.

“These awards will be given by the Commission and the Institute, and, as such, should reflect what the Members want to award and reward,” Commissioner Frankel stated. The first library award will be presented during National Library Week, April 2000, thus allowing ample time to develop the criteria and the program. If plans are in place, the first announcement of the National Award for Libraries can be during National Library Week, April 1999.

A copy of the original criteria for the museum award is available upon request from IMLS. The criteria for libraries will be prepared and circulated for review and comment.

Commissioner Abramson suggested that in addition to NALS, consideration be given to some type of special recognition for museum/library partnerships and cooperation. The Chairperson suggested that the criteria and program could be broad enough to include special recognition awards.

NCLIS/NMSB Meeting

Commissioner Frankel briefly described the agenda for the second NCLIS/National Museum Services Board (NMSB) joint meeting to be held the following day, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Of particular importance, the agenda calls for:

- (1) The announcement of the first awardees under the National Leadership Grant program and awards for Native American library services;
- (2) Overview of the 1998 grant types;
- (3) Presentation to, and acceptance by, Grant awardees;
- (4) Guideline discussion; and
- (5) Remarks by lunch speaker, Senator James Jeffords.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Monday, September 28, 1998

Second Joint Meeting
NCLIS/National Museum Services Board (NMSB)
9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

NCLIS Members present	Jeanne Hurley Simon, Chairperson; "Abe" Abramson; Rebecca T. Bingham; Joan Challinor; Diane Frankel; Mary Furlong; José-Marie Griffiths; Martha Gould; Bobby Roberts; Winston Tabb for James Billington; and Joel Valdez
NMSB Members present	Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Chairman; Alberta Sebolt George; Charles Hummel; Arthur Rosenblatt; Ruth Tamura; David A. Ucko; and Townsend Wolfe
NCLIS staff and consultants present	Robert S. Willard, Executive Director Judith C. Russell, Deputy Director Howard Harris, Consultant Barbara L. Whiteleather, Consultant

Opening Comments and Introductions

Chairperson Jeanne Hurley Simon, Co-Chair, NCLIS/National Museum Services Board (NMSB), welcomed the Members, staff, guests and visitors to the second NCLIS/NMSB joint meeting.

In her opening comments, Chairperson Simon stated, in part, "... Over the last eighteen months we have become learners. We are learning to know each other and learning to approach each other as learners. We must also learn how to approach our jobs as surrogates in the interests of libraries, museums and the many other institutions playing key roles in the cultural and educational health of our Nation ... But it is the people who walk through the doors of museums and libraries every day that give life and meaning to these institutions. ... we must never lose sight of those who cannot find their way, for whatever reason, to the doors of libraries and museums.

"... Today we will hear about the program's first steps -- its strengths and weaknesses -- and we will learn about some of the first recipients of the grants. ... It is not premature to say that the process is not perfect, because no human endeavor ever is. But we should always aim for improvement. We will have the opportunity to learn together and to provide thoughtful recommendations for such improvement as surrogates of the People of our great Nation."

Kinshasha Holman Conwill, NMSB Chairperson, echoed Chairperson Simon's remarks and stated that this is an occasion to share and to learn from our colleagues in the field, and to improve our services to the members of the public.

National Leadership Grants

IMLS Director Diane Frankel announced the first-ever awards presented under the National Leadership Grant program and awards for Native American library services.

The FY 1998 National Leadership Grant program provided 41 grants totaling nearly \$6.5 million in the following categories and priorities:

1. EDUCATION AND TRAINING. Model programs to provide education and training for the use of emerging technologies in the field of library and information science, and to attract individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds to the field. 6 awards totaling \$922,513.
2. RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION. Model projects to enhance library services through the use of appropriate technologies and to create methods to evaluate the contributions to a community made by institutions providing access to information services. 10 awards totaling \$1,483,103.
3. PRESERVATION OR DIGITIZATION. Projects to preserve unique library resources of national significance, emphasizing access by researchers beyond the institution undertaking the project, and projects that address the preservation and archiving of digital media. 13 awards totaling \$1,710,197.
4. MODEL PROGRAMS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS. Projects that develop, document and disseminate both the processes and products of model programs of cooperation between libraries and museums, with emphasis on how the community is served, technology is used, or education is enhanced. 12 awards totaling \$2,371,937.

Two grant recipients were on hand for the presentation:

- (1) The Brooklyn Children's Museum, Brooklyn, New York, received \$297,000 for a two-year project, in partnership with the Brooklyn Museum of Art and the Brooklyn Public Library, to expand a cooperative project to increase educational services to the Brooklyn community and to develop a national model for attracting and training people from diverse backgrounds in information technology, library science, and museum programs. On hand to explain the project and accept the award were: Martin Gomez, Executive Director, Brooklyn Public Library; Carol Enseki, Brooklyn Children's Museum; and Deborah Schwartz, Deputy Director of the Brooklyn Museum of Art.

- (2) University of Maryland College of Library and Information Services, College Park, received \$94,000 for a two-year project to recruit individuals from diverse backgrounds to the master's degree program in library science, focusing on part-time students and on the provision of mentoring as well as financial assistance to students. Dr. Ann Prentice, Dean, College of Library and Information Science, University of Maryland College Park, accepted the award.

Commissioner Frankel stated that the grants were awarded through a review process composed of qualified library, museum or information science professionals. The panel reviewed approximately eight proposals over a four week period in one or more of the following areas:

- Education/training for library and information science
- Research/demonstration projects in library and information science
- Digitization/preservation of library materials
- Cooperative programs involving libraries and museums, or expertise in a field with potential applications in libraries and museums

Commissioner Challinor stated that she had the opportunity to observe two panels and praised Commissioner Frankel for the judicious selection of panels. Commissioner Challinor noted that the panels worked very well together, showing unity and mutual respect for each other and for the sponsoring organization.

Chairman Conwill, NMSB, added that peer review panels are valuable for several reasons: (1) Panels offer several points of view; (2) No one person is making a decision; and (3) Panels learn a great deal about the grant making process, and that learning component is very important. "The greatest task is to close the gap between the 'haves' and the 'have nots'," she stated.

Commissioner Frankel also announced that NCLIS and IMLS have established a National Award for Library Service. It is proposed that the major criteria for the library award be closely aligned to the criteria for museums: community involvement and partnership.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m. An NCLIS/NMSB luncheon was held during which the Members had an opportunity to hear from Senator James Jeffords (R-VT) and meet Commissioner Pat Forgione, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Senator James Jeffords

Chairperson Simon introduced Senator James Jeffords (R-VT), Chair, Labor and Human Resources Committee (the Committee with jurisdiction over museums and libraries). She stated that Senator Jeffords was instrumental in revising the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) to create the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), the legislation that (1) combined the IMLS museum and library programs; and (2) created the National Leadership Grants.

Senator Jeffords began his remarks by stating, "My main desire in life is to improve education, erase illiteracy, and make all people excited about life." He expressed how pleased he was with the announcement of the National Leadership Grants, stating, "This is the exact goal Congress had in mind. We, as a Nation, need to maximize our use of technology in new and exciting ways. . . ."

Senator Jeffords also stated that libraries are key to combatting literacy and that everyone must recognize the power and purpose of museums and libraries in dealing with literacy. He discussed the Reading Excellence Act legislation, which he hoped Congress would pass before adjourning. "The future of this Nation depends upon education; education can lead us to a greater and better world. Nothing is going to change until there is improvement in the classroom. We are not going to survive unless we change our educational system. We must make education relevant to those youth not college-bound," he urged.

After a brief question and answer period, the NCLIS Members returned to the Hotel Washington for the conclusion of the NCLIS meeting.

Monday, September 28, 1998

The Hotel Washington
NCLIS Meeting
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Members present	Jeanne Hurley Simon, Chairperson; "Abe" Abramson; Rebecca T. Bingham; Joan Challinor; Diane Frankel; Mary Furlong; José-Marie Griffiths; Martha Gould; Bobby Roberts; Winston Tabb for James Billington; and Joel Valdez.
Members not present	Walter Anderson; LeVar Burton; and Frank Lucchino
Staff and consultants present	Robert S. Willard, Executive Director Judith C. Russell, Deputy Director Howard Harris, Consultant Barbara L. Whiteleather, Consultant
Guests and observers	Mary Alice Baish, American Association of Law Libraries (AALL); Beth Bingham, Baton Rouge, LA; Mary Costabile, American Library Association (ALA); Ray Ewick, Indiana State Librarian and Incoming President, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (representing COSLA); Peyton Neal, Information Industry Association (IIA); Ann Prentice, American Society for Information Science (ASIS); and Carmine Trotter, White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIST)

Library Statistics Cooperative Program

Mr. Willard expressed his disappointment that Commissioner Pascal "Pat" Forgione, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), was unable to accept the Commission's invitation to speak on the NCLIS/NCES Library Statistics Cooperative Program (LSCP).

Mr. Willard reported on the "Special Event" held on September 23, planned and sponsored by NCLIS and NCES. The event, entitled, "Setting the Direction for the Library Statistics Cooperative Program," heard eight library/information statistical experts discuss the findings, recommendations and possible next steps contained in the *Assessment of and Planning for NCLIS Role in the LSCP* prepared by Mr. Harris. Commissioners Abramson, Bingham and Challinor were in attendance. Mr. Willard reported that Commission Forgione had received positive comments on the special event,

and that he believes the LSCP is now “back on track.” Ms. Russell reported that Commissioner Forgione also expressed interest in the Commission’s potential December meeting with the Gates Library Foundation in Seattle.

Mr. Willard reiterated NCLIS’ commitment to LSCP, and stated that filling the Coordinator (Fellow) position is one of the Commission’s top priorities. In addition, Mr. Harris will discuss the Fellow position with deans of library schools throughout the country.

NCLIS Meeting, December 3-4, 1998

Commissioner Furlong reported on a recent discussion with Melinda Gates, Gates Library Foundation, concerning the Commission’s upcoming meeting, December 3-4, in Seattle, Washington. During that discussion Mrs. Gates suggested the Commission hear from technical resource persons involved in the dissemination of Internet equipment to rural libraries to learn of the challenges they face. “The spark appears in Melinda’s eyes when the Foundation makes a difference to the kids in the rural communities who previously had no connection to the Internet,” she stated.

Commissioner Furlong suggested the Commission meet with John Doar of TechNet, San Francisco, California. Mr. Doar is very interested in education and may be a valuable resource in the area of library statistics. She also suggested the Commission consider hosting a ‘get-acquainted luncheon’ with Microsoft/Compac/Time Warner as they are now establishing a “beachhead” in Reston, Virginia.

IFLA Report

Commissioner Challinor distributed copies of her IFLA report, August 16-21, 1998, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The report also covered the “Know-How Conference on the World of Women’s Information,” August 22-26. During IFLA several themes came through clearly:

1. As globalization advances, local peoples, immigrants and indigenous peoples are demanding that they be dealt with in their own cultures and in their own languages.
2. The international library world is, as is the USA library world, in the midst of a great transition and there is an enormous fund of optimism generated by information science.
3. The haves and the have-nots are growing further apart.
4. Before receiving information, people need adequate shelter, food and health. Social needs precede information needs.
5. There is a high level of thinking going on in the international library world.

6. If you want to organize a really well-run conference, go to The Netherlands.

In reporting on the Women's Conference, Commissioner Challinor talked about the use of radio to reach people who are illiterate. She stated that many of the speakers urged that radio -- the forgotten technology -- be utilized and regarded, as highly as the PC and other high-tech instruments, as a method of reaching masses of people in the Third World. Again, the widening gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' was expressed. Many participants were skeptical concerning the 'dawning of a brighter day' for the 'have-nots' in the technology revolution.

Commissioner Challinor stated, "I am dismayed to find that the women's position in 1998 is the same as in 1994. Even after the enormous success of the Beijing Conference on Women, it is clear that those in power must be forced to share. . . . Access to information will not be handed to women, it must be seized. It is a long and difficult road for women, and it still lies ahead."

Commissioner Furlong asked if the Commission could convene a panel to discuss becoming a 'change agent' in the area of the 'haves' and the 'have-nots'. For example, profile a librarian who has made a difference to the community; a story told in such a way as to inspire other librarians. Commissioner Challinor stated her opinion that the women could bring about change if they had the information or the money to do so. Commissioner Griffiths stated that she participated in a two-day panel session sponsored by OCLC, Inc. on continuing education development programs in South America where the deliberate decision was made to have women panelists serving as role models for the other women in attendance.

Mr. Tabb presented his report on IFLA 1998. Most of his time was spent working with the National Libraries Group and the program on the future of the legal deposit of electronic materials. He stated that language continues to be a real problem at IFLA. In fact, a major political issue is whether or not Chinese should be accepted as the sixth official language at IFLA. This tends to be an economic issue because all "official languages" require simultaneous translations as well as translation of each and every paper. Because the Internet is primarily English-based, there is a huge push toward teaching English to more librarians. This will continue to be a topic of utmost importance.

In discussing the influx of languages on the Internet, Commissioner Valdez stated, "In communities with high concentrations of illegal immigrants, there is difficulty in issuing library cards to children and in making the children, or their parents, feel comfortable within a library. Commissioner Bingham stated that similar feelings exist in inner-city libraries because parents cannot or do not want to pay library fines or rent educational videos. As a result, the parents tell teachers that their children cannot borrow library books/videos. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act has helped in this regard, though.

IFLA 1999 in Bangkok will tend to focus on programs helpful to people from the region. The two major programs planned are: (1) "The Role of National Libraries in Helping School and Public Libraries in the Developing World;" and (2) "The Role of National Libraries in the Recording and Preservation of Oral Cultures of Minority Groups."

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Griffiths reported on a study conducted by the National Academy of Sciences on Internet intrusion in developing countries. Additional information on this interesting study, "Internet Counts" can be found on the Web.

Commissioner Challinor recently visited the Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois. She met with librarian Mary Wiley, who requested that she carry two comments back to the Commission: (1) the Newberry Library is no longer an elitist operation; and (2) more attention should be paid to cataloging. Mr. Tabb recalled a Commission meeting at the Newberry Library in 1993.

NCLIS/NMSB Joint Meeting

In reviewing the previous day's meeting with the National Museum Services Board, the Chairperson expressed how pleased she was with the meeting and its developments.

The Members, however, did express disappointment with the sound system (not hearing as much as 40%) and the 'cavernous' room which was both imposing and intimidating. Vice Chair Gould suggested future agendas include less time for socializing and more time for substantive discussions. Chairperson Simon stated that Commissioner Frankel is agreeable to changes.

Members also expressed desire for additional information and statistics pertaining to all National Leadership Grants applications and awards. For example, Vice Chair Gould asked, "Were requests received from school libraries? If there were, and they were not awarded, why? Did the school libraries and/or school districts have sufficient lead-time to prepare grants?" She stated that the Commission needs to get the message out that we are looking for collaborative library/museum programs. Commissioner Furlong noted that it would be helpful to learn about "best practices", i.e. what works; what does not work. The Members also expressed the need for additional information on the criteria for selecting field reviewers and panelists.

In summary, Chairperson Simon requested Mr. Willard send a letter to Commissioner Frankel: (1) expressing appreciation for the meeting arrangements; and (2) offering practical suggestions for future meetings. Mr. Willard noted that the NMSB

meets three times a year (including the joint meeting) to hear presentations, differing greatly from NCLIS meetings where Commissioners “talk it out.” In Mr. Willard’s opinion, the NMSB operates as a sounding board, and NCLIS operates as a discussion board in a proactive mode.

Mr. Willard offered several comments and suggestions regarding future NCLIS/NMSB meetings:

- The IMLS’ structure for drafting guidelines and announcing awards does not work well with NCLIS’ timetable;
- Invite one or two of the LSTA grant recipients to the NCLIS July 1999 meeting to provide additional information; and
- Establish an NCLIS sub-committee to discuss Commission concerns.

The Members discussed the IMLS Director position -- a position appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. This position alternates every four years between individuals with special competence with regard to library and information services and museum services. Because of the Commission’s concern for qualified candidates, the Chairperson authorized Mr. Willard to explore with the White House personnel office their expectations for filling this position. This concern will be a topic for discussion at the September 23-24, 1999, joint meeting.

FY 1998 Financial Report

Mr. Willard reported that the NCLIS Fiscal Year 1998 financial report is delayed because the Department of Education has installed a new accounting system, which is, at best, flawed. The report will be distributed as soon as possible.

Future NCLIS Meetings

- November 9-10, 1998

Because the majority of the Commissioners will attend the NCLIS open hearing, “Kids and the Internet: The Promise and the Perils,” a brief (2:00 – 5:00 p.m.) meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 9, the day before the November 10 hearing. In addition, the NCLIS Personnel Committee will meet from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Monday.

- December 3-4, 1998

Commissioner Furlong requested that she and Commissioner Lucchino assist staff with local arrangements for the December 3-4, 1998, meeting in Seattle, Washington. Mr. Willard noted that hotel arrangements have been confirmed at the Hotel Vintage Park, across the street from the Seattle Public Library, the location for the meeting.

Vice Chair Gould expressed interest in attending the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI) conference immediately following NCLIS' meeting. Commissioners wishing to attend the conference should request permission from the Chairperson; Winston Tabb indicated he would be attending the conference.

- April 7-8, 1999

The April 7-8, 1999, NCLIS meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan, will be held in conjunction with the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) meeting in Detroit. At Commissioner Griffiths' request, a portion of the meeting will be devoted to a discussion of library and information science education.

- July 1999

Plans are underway for an NCLIS meeting and hearing on library and information services for persons with disabilities on the grounds of the Gallaudet College in Washington, DC. Commissioner Abramson suggested meeting in Big Sky, Montana, if the Gallaudet plans cannot be arranged.

- September 23-24, 1999

The third joint meeting of the NCLIS/National Museum Services Board will be held September 23-24, 1999, in Washington, DC.

Appreciation to Robert Willard

Commissioner Furlong expressed appreciation to Bob Willard for his leadership, and stated that, "The storm clouds have disappeared." Commissioner Challinor agreed, stating, "The credit goes to the leader because he gets the un-credit if things go wrong!"

Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Simon stated how relieved she is that the two-year personnel matter has come to closure. She also expressed complete satisfaction with the leadership of Bob Willard and Judy Russell, which, she noted, "makes life much more pleasant."

The Chairperson praised Commissioner Furlong for arranging the successful Senate forum before the Special Committee on Aging in July 1998.

Personnel Matters

Commissioner Abramson amended his motion from the previous day. He recommended that the Commission send a letter, rather than a resolution, to Mary Alice Hedge, and suggested appropriate language.

MOTION

It was moved by Joan Challinor, seconded by Abe Abramson, that the Chairperson and Executive Director review the draft language suggested by Commissioner Abramson for a letter to former staffer Mary Alice Hedge expressing appreciation for her NCLIS tenure and work. After review and due deliberation by all Members the letter will be forwarded to Ms. Hedge.

The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Willard noted that although Executive Director reports are customarily prepared monthly, the September report covers activities since mid-July. "We use Executive Director reports much like we use the NCLIS News Releases – not quite right. We use them as 'vehicles for communications'. I suggest we rethink our communication strategy; perhaps in the way of newsletters and, where possible, through web-based communication."

Mr. Willard reported that during IFLA 1998 he had the opportunity to meet the staff director of the Commission's counterpart from the United Kingdom: the Library and Information Commission. During their conversation, he suggested the possibility of the British Commission coming to IFLA 2001 in Boston for a joint meeting. In return, a second joint meeting could be held during IFLA 2001 in Glasgow.

In his closing remarks Mr. Willard stated, "There are so many programs and projects going on at one time that I am not quite as comfortable as I would like to be. We manage to get an enormous amount of work accomplished, but I do not think I would get points for style. The bottom line is: I am tremendously enjoying the job much more than I ever anticipated, and I want to thank you for placing trust in me."

Commissioner Gould praised Judy Russell for her preparation of the FY 2000 budget request to the Office of Management and Budget.

NCLIS Minutes

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by Mary Furlong, that the draft minutes of the NCLIS meeting, June 25-26, 1998, be approved as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Whiteleather was praised for her preparation of the NCLIS minutes.

NCLIS Liaison Comments

Mary Costabile, representing the American Library Association (ALA), reminded the Members that the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is up for reauthorization in the 106th Congress. She noted that it is extremely difficult to obtain timely statistics for ESEA school libraries. Since NCLIS was influential in the previous ESEA legislation, she called upon NCLIS to again assist in this major reauthorization.

Commissioner Abramson suggested that provision of timely and reliable statistics become part of the reauthorization's reporting requirements.

Ray Ewick, representing the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), suggested that NCLIS and COSLA partner in mutual programs, concerns and interests. He agreed that provision of statistics could be sited in legislation, thus helping to make statistics timely and reliable. He stated that the next IMLS Director is of utmost concern to state librarians and encouraged NCLIS to develop criteria and recommend persons for this important position. He praised Commissioner Frankel's leadership during the difficult transition period.

Peyton Neal, representing the Information Industry Association (IIA), reported that Title 44 legislation has encountered major problems, and is unlikely to pass this session. This disappointing delay, undoubtedly, raises the importance of NCLIS' *Assessment of Government Electronic Information Products*.

The copyright law is expected to pass, and, in all likelihood contain provisions that could cause major problems. If, in fact, the law passes, he suggested that NCLIS focus on helping the library community gain better understanding of the provisions, including the mandated studies for a six-month period following the enactment of the new law.

Beth Bingham of Louisiana emphasized the importance of library and museum collaboration and cooperation. She suggested the Commission consider additional ways to interact with other federal agencies regarding information resources, e.g., many people are not aware that funds for libraries are available under the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. "The library community people

need help and direction in pointing us toward financial resources to make our lives easier,” she urged.

Ann Prentice, representing the American Society for Information Science (ASIS), stated how pleased she was to be the liaison representing ASIS. She noted that ASIS’ mission is ‘research in support of service’ and suggested that the new liaison can help strengthen the Commission.

Carmine Trotter, representing the White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIST), distributed a copy of “Action Summary” which states:

During its 1998 Summer Meeting at Annual conference in Washington, DC, the ALA Executive Board took the following actions: Voted to endorse an exploratory meeting for a future national forum on library issues and that the ALA President appoint a task force to organize this meeting for appropriate groups at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in January 1998 in Philadelphia.

Mr. Trotter also distributed: (1) a proposal outlining recommendations, past history, future need for legislation, problems of previous WHC’s, and the goals and blueprint for a national forum; and (2) the WHCLIST Conference Report, Phoenix, Arizona, August 6-9, 1998, prepared by Sara Jane Cate, Lay Delegate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Attachments

- (I) Resolution honoring Gail F. Baum
- (II) Highlights from *The 1998 National Survey of Public Library Outlet Internet Connectivity*
- (III) Statement of Recognition by Senator Dodd



U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

RESOLUTION
HONORING
Gail F. Baum

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Education provides the necessary administrative services to the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS); and

WHEREAS for several years Gail F. Baum, General Attorney, Department of Business and Administrative Law, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education, has been in direct contact with Chairperson Jeanne Hurley Simon and NCLIS staff on extremely sensitive personnel, legal, and financial issues; and

WHEREAS Ms. Baum has provided expert advice, wise counsel, and strategic planning in a steadfast timely and unwavering manner.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science express their sincere appreciation and deserving praise to Gail F. Baum for her constant guidance, advice, support and service.

Unanimously adopted by the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on September 27, 1998.

Highlights from The 1998 National Survey of Public Library Outlet Internet Connectivity¹

¹From Bertot, J.C., and McClure, C. R., *The 1998 National Survey of Public Library Outlet Internet Connectivity. Final Report.* (Fall, 1998). Sponsored by the American Library Association and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Highlight Items

- NCLIS Role in Library Statistics
- Universes Under Survey
- Public Library Connectivity
 - ◆ By Poverty Level
 - ◆ By Metropolitan Status
- Public Access in Libraries
 - ◆ By Poverty Level
 - ◆ By Metropolitan Status

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Highlight Items

- Graphic Public Access
- Effective Internet Connectivity
- Effective Library Connectivity
- Measures of Effective Connectivity
- Numbers of Graphic Workstations
- Acceptable Use and Filtering
- Some Issues for Investigation

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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NCLIS Role in Library Statistics

- NCLIS long-term partnership with NCES focused on collecting and reporting library statistics.
- In recent years NCLIS has supported together with ALA the tracking of Internet use in public libraries and by libraries' patrons.
- This series of National Surveys of U.S. Public Libraries and the Internet has taken place in 1994, 1996, 1997, and 1998.

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Universes under Survey

■	1996	8,921	Main Libraries
■	1997	8,921	Main Libraries
<hr/>			
■	1998	15,718	Public Library Outlets

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Public Library Connectivity

■	1996	44%	Main Libraries
■	1997	72%	Main Libraries
<hr/>			
■	1998	83.6%	Public Library Outlets

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Public Access in Libraries

- 1996 28% Main Libraries
- 1997 60% Main Libraries

- 1998 73.3% Public Library Outlets

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Public Library Public Access Internet Connectivity by Poverty Levels

- Public Libraries with poverty levels of less than 20% 73.2%
- Public Libraries with poverty levels between 20% to 40% 72.8%
- Public Libraries with poverty levels more than 40% 79.5%
- Overall 73.3%

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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Public Library Public Access Internet Connectivity by Metropolitan Status

■ Urban Public Libraries	84.0%
■ Suburban Public Libraries	76.7%
■ Rural Public Libraries	67.6%
■ Overall	73.3%

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Graphic Public Access

■ 1996	N/A	
■ 1997	52%	Main Libraries
<hr/>		
■ 1998	68.6%	Public Library Outlets

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Effective Internet Connectivity

- Internet Access
- Graphic Internet Access (WWW)
- Sufficient Access Speed (56KBps)
- Computer Workstation

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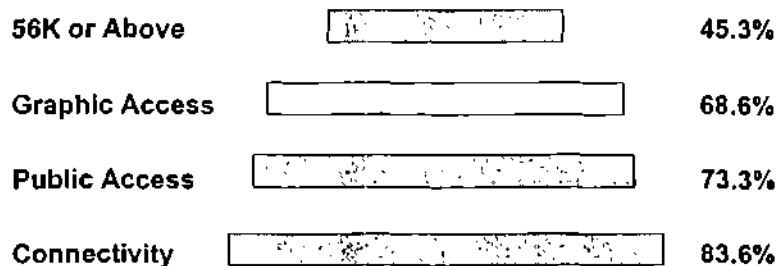
Effective Library Connectivity

- Internet Connectivity
- Public Access
- Graphic Public Access
- Availability of Computer Workstation with Sufficient Access Speed
- Number of Computer Workstations

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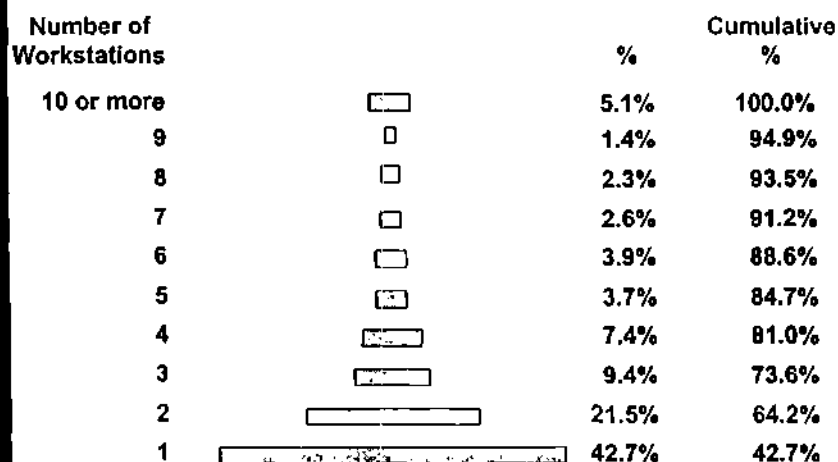
Measures of Effective Connectivity



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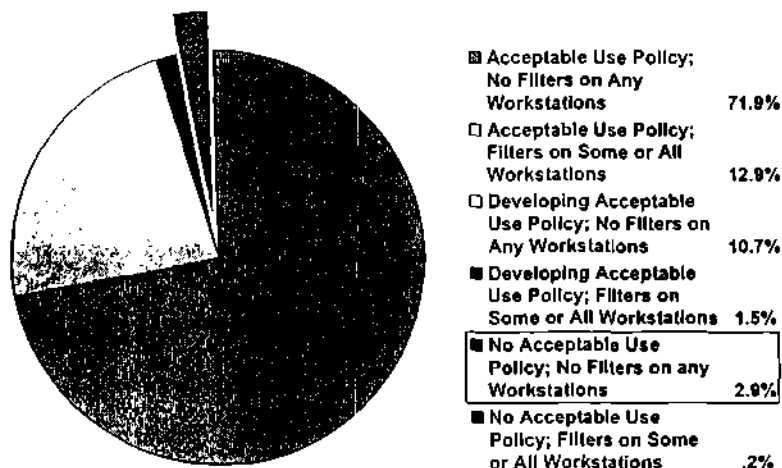
Numbers of Graphic Workstations



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Acceptable Use / Filtering



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Some Issues for Investigation

- Role of librarians in supporting Internet based services
- Network based as opposed to building based library and information services
- Databases, applications, and library staff services delivered via the Internet
- Outcomes associated with the use of Internet based databases, applications, and library staff services

NCLIS, September 22, 1998

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United States
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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998

No. 123

Senate

RECOGNITION OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES

Mr DODD. Mr President, I rise today in recognition of the efforts recently made by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries to mobilize resources for the purpose of curbing youth violence in this nation.

Youth violence in America is, undeniably, a serious and frightening problem today. The recent string of highly publicized school shootings has made this all too clear; over the last ten months, 15 people have died and 42 have been wounded. This terrifying epidemic has spread across the country—from Mississippi to Pennsylvania to Washington. As a result, cities such as Jonesboro, Arkansas, and Springfield, Oregon, will remain burned in the public mind, forever associated with terror, heartbreak, and inexplicable tragedy. When faced with the all too horrifying reality of children killing children, teachers, even parents, the nation is shaken to its core, as common associations of youth and innocence are violently broken. Citizens are left to mourn and to ask the inevitable question: Why?

But wondering why is not enough. Innovative action is required if future tragedies are to be prevented. And the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science is leading the way, having committed itself to just such action. The Commission is a permanent, independent agency of the federal government charged by Congress to advise the President and the Congress on national and international library and information policies and plans. On July 8, 1998, the members of the Commission unanimously approved a resolution that urges all of society—community officials, educators, parents, role models—to support efforts made by libraries to assist adults, youth, and children in finding, through valuable learning resources and experiences, solutions to this outbreak of violence. The Commission's recognition of the important and constructive role libraries can play in the lives of America's children is commendable. It

is commitment like this that may help to curb the terrifying tide of violence—both in the school and in the home.

Mr. President, I ask that the Resolution of the Commission be printed in the Record and serve as a model to all of us and our community organizations as we struggle to come to terms with violence among our youth.

The Resolution follows:

U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

Resolution in Recognition of the Important Role of Libraries in the Lives of American Children

WHEREAS we have seen the recent outbreak of children venting rage and anger by killing parents, teachers and schoolmates,

WHEREAS we know that mental development, positive socialization and emotional stabilization must begin at birth if children are to grow up with full success,

WHEREAS we are concerned about the needs of tens of thousands of young persons now in corrections or on probation who may return to destructive behaviors if they receive no redirection,

Be it Resolved That the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science urges that our society—officials and educators at all levels, community leaders, parents and other adult caregivers, confidantes and role models—utilize the vast potential of libraries and support the current and potential abilities and efforts of librarians in assisting adults, youth and children to seek positive outcomes through wise use of information, and

Be it Further Resolved: That, in seeking solutions through better parenting and learning experiences for young children and redirection for troubled older children and adolescents, libraries can be a major delivery point.